

## **Flint's First Deer** - Continued...

hand the rifle to Flint when we are standing right by the animal and Flint shoots it. We have done this act hundreds of times. It is in my muscle memory.

As we were driving this day in a pasture at the ranch, we came across a nice buck that had dislocated its back leg. I knew this buck well, since I had seen this buck in this pasture nearly every time I checked my traps over the previous two months. In fact, I had seen this very buck the day before.

The buck was barely getting along. It could hardly run from us. It wobbled over into the corner of the pasture and sadly stood there turning circles. It couldn't jump the fence to get away and it couldn't run much faster than I could walk.

Knowing what needed to be done, I grabbed my .22 Hornet rifle and the boys and I approached the buck. At first, I thought the buck had been shot and was wounded. But as we approached, I could clearly see that it wasn't a hunter's errant bullet that injured the buck. I could see where the buck had hung its back leg in the fence, dislocating his hip joint.

Since I had seen the buck the day before, I figured his meat was still in good shape. We could shoot it, tag it and have some good venison on the table in no time. So, when we were about five yards away, I loaded a single bullet into the rifle and handed it to Flint like I had done so many times before.

Flint put a round behind the buck's shoulder. Flint handed me the rifle and as I unloaded it, Flint said, "I can't wait to tell Mom and Amber about shooting MY FIRST BUCK! They will soooo excited!"

*Insert the  
OH NOOOOOOO!  
music right here.*



Local youth hunter Flint Bridges shows off his "Oh No Buck" with family friend Brady Westlund in the background.

# Visit Safari & RV Park Near Evant

Buena Vista Wildlife Safari and RV Park is now open to visitors!

The park, located near Evant, offers over 20 exotic and native wildlife animals for viewing. There is also a petting zoo for the little ones, a stocked lake for catch and release fishing, and a horseshoe pitching area.



Construction began at Buena Vista Wildlife Safari and RV Park in the spring of 2018. Buena Vista features a natural environment, drive-through wildlife safari with over twenty species of animals - including zebra, llama, many different antelope and deer, bison, wildebeest, and more.

The RV Park has full hook-ups, pull-through spaces, a bath house with laundry facilities, a clubhouse, and even covered horse pens. There are also three fully furnished cabins, all with great views of the Wildlife Park. A petting zoo and gift shop are also on site.

For more information, visit the Safari's website at [www.buenavistawildlifesafari.com](http://www.buenavistawildlifesafari.com).